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INTELLIGENT STORAGE DEVICE CONTROLLER

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5   A programmable streaming data processor that can be programmed to recognize record and field structures of data received from a streaming data source such as a mass storage device. Being programmed with, for example, field information, the unit can locate record and field boundaries and employ logical arithmetic methods to compare fields with one another or with values otherwise supplied by general purpose processors

10   to precisely determine which records are worth transferring to memory of the more general purpose distributed processors. The remaining records arrive and are discarded by the streaming data processor or are tagged with status bits to indicate to the more general purpose processor that they are to be ignored. In a preferred embodiment, the streaming data processor may analyze and discard records for several reasons. The first

15   reason may be an analysis of contents of the field. Other reasons for record blocking may have to do with tagging records that are to be visible to particular users depending upon a series of concurrent transactions.